United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit



APPELLEE'S SUPPLEMENTAL BRIEF

75-1052^B F APPEALS

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Appellant,

-against-

-against-

TOMMY ROBBERTS,

Appellee.

Docket No. 75-1052

SUPPLEMENTAL BRIEF FOR APPELLEE

ON APPEAL FROM AN ORDER
OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK



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ARGUMENT

THE INDICTMENT WAS PROPERLY DISMISSED UNDER RULE 48(b), Fed.R.Cr.P.

On February 25, 1975, this Court decided United States v. Furey, Doc. No. 74-2266, slip opinion 1917. In that decision, the Court resolved several issues concerning the inherent power of the District Court to dismiss an indictment with prejudice for failure to prosecute:

... Restated in Rule 48(b), F.R.Cr.P., ... this power is independent of Sixth Amendment considerations, being an outgrowth of the court's supervisory authority with respect to its own jurisdiction. Its exercise has traditionally been within the court's discretion... Dismissal under the power may be without prejudice ... or with prejudice.

Slip opinion at 1924-1925.

The opinion unequivocally states that dismissal with prejudice is not limited to Sixth Amendment violations. Slip opinion at 1925.

In this case, Judge Dooling's order dismissing the indictment is justified as an exercise of his discretion. The Government's conditions for its bargain unnecessarily deprived Mr.

Roberts of a substantial right -- consideration for young adult offender treatment. As pointed out in the main brief for Mr.

Roberts, this right would have accrued at the time the conviction took place, either by plea or by verdict. The Government acknowledges that it usually proceeds in cases of cooperation by delaying sentencing. Here, it chose to delay disposition of the entire case until after the Smith trial, and then took no steps to move ahead on that proceeding. The record supplies no justification for the delay which resulted in the prejudice.

The remedy of dismissal under Rule 48(b), requested by counsel in her motion to dismiss,* accomplishes only what Mr.

^{*}The Judge did not rely on Rule 48(b) in his order, but counsel's request for such relief is sufficient to justify a finding here.

Roberts would most likely have been entitled to in a properly conducted proceeding. Indeed, the finding of "benefit" necessary under the statute to impose youth offender treatment would be a fortiori for this cooperative first offender.

There was no abuse of the discretion in the case, and the order below must be affirmed as the proper use of authority under Rule 48(b).

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

March 12, 1975

I certify that a copy of this supplemental brief has been delivered by messenger to the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of New York.

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